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In the Claims:

Claims 1 to 39 (Canceled).

1 40. (Currently amended) A metallic article comprising a  
2 metallic substrate including a protective layer adapted to  
3 provide protection against at least one of oxidation or  
4 corrosion at a substrate surface of said substrate,  
5 wherein:

6 said substrate has a nickel-based substrate  
7 composition comprising nickel or a nickel alloy and further  
8 comprising a content of aluminum representing greater than  
9 4.5 weight percent of said substrate composition;

10 said protective layer is a surface region in said  
11 substrate, extending into said substrate from said  
12 substrate surface, as formed by diffusion of at least  
13 platinum into said substrate surface; and

14 said surface region has a content of said platinum  
15 such that an integrated proportion of said platinum over an  
16 integration depth range is from 5 to ~~[[40]]~~ 30 weight  
17 percent of an overall composition of said integration depth  
18 range, which extends from a minimum integration depth to a  
19 maximum integration depth, wherein said minimum integration  
20 depth is ~~[[of]]~~ from 0 to 5  $\mu$ m into said substrate from  
21 said substrate surface, ~~[[to a]]~~ and wherein said maximum  
22 integration depth is a depth, into said substrate from said  
23 substrate surface, at which a local content percentage of

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24 said platinum ~~progressing from said substrate surface~~ has  
25 diminished to 5 weight percent.

Claim 41 (Canceled).

1 42. (Currently amended) The metallic article according to  
2 ~~claim 41,~~ claim 40, wherein said minimum integration depth  
3 is 0  $\mu\text{m}$ .

1 43. (Previously presented) The metallic article according to  
2 claim 40, wherein said integrated proportion of said  
3 platinum over said integration depth range is from 5 to  
4 17.99 weight percent of said overall composition of said  
5 integration depth range.

1 44. (Previously presented) The metallic article according to  
2 claim 43, wherein said minimum integration depth is 0  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 45 (Canceled).

1 46. (Previously presented) The metallic article according to  
2 claim 40, wherein said content of aluminum represents at  
3 most 10 weight percent of said substrate composition.

1 47. (Previously presented) The metallic article according to  
2 claim 40, wherein a proportion of said aluminum relative to  
3 said nickel or said nickel alloy in said surface region

4 corresponds to a proportion of said aluminum relative to  
6 said nickel or said nickel alloy in said substrate  
8 composition.

1 48. (Previously presented) The metallic article according to  
2 claim 40, wherein said metallic article is a component of  
3 a gas turbine.

1 49. (Previously presented) The metallic article according to  
2 claim 40, wherein said metallic article is a component of  
3 a gas turbine aircraft engine.

1 50. (Previously presented) The metallic article according to  
2 claim 40, wherein said metallic article is a gas turbine  
3 blade.

1 51. (Previously presented) The metallic article according to  
2 claim 40, wherein said protective layer is formed by  
3 diffusion of exclusively at least one platinum-group  
4 element including said platinum into said substrate  
5 surface.

1 52. (Previously presented) The metallic article according to  
2 claim 40, wherein said protective layer is formed by  
3 diffusion of exclusively said platinum into said substrate  
4 surface.

1 53. (Previously presented) The metallic article according to  
2 claim 40, wherein said protective layer consists of said  
3 nickel-based substrate composition and said platinum.

1 54. (Previously presented) The metallic article according to  
2 claim 40, wherein said metallic article does not include an  
3 aluminized or alitized surface layer.

1 55. (Currently amended) A metallic article including a  
2 corrosion or oxidation protective layer at a surface of a  
3 metallic substrate, wherein:

4 said substrate has a nickel-based substrate  
5 composition comprising nickel or a nickel alloy and further  
6 comprising a content of aluminum more than 4.5 weight  
7 percent of said substrate composition;

8 said protective layer is a surface region in said  
9 substrate consisting of platinum diffused into said  
10 substrate composition in said surface region from a  
11 substrate surface of said substrate;

12 said surface ~~region, extending~~ region extends from  
13 said substrate surface into said substrate to a depth at  
14 which a local concentration of said platinum has diminished  
15 to 5 weight percent, percent;

16 said surface region has an averaged content of said  
17 platinum from 5 to 17.99 weight percent of an overall  
18 composition of said surface region; and

19 said overall composition of said surface region  
20 consists of said substrate composition and said platinum.

1 56. (Currently amended) A method of producing a metallic  
2 article having an oxidation or corrosion protective layer  
3 at a substrate surface of a metallic substrate, comprising  
4 the steps:

5 a) providing said metallic substrate that has a  
6 nickel-based substrate composition comprising nickel  
7 or a nickel alloy and further comprising a content of  
8 aluminum greater than 4.5 weight percent of said  
9 substrate composition; and

10 b) diffusing platinum into said substrate surface of said  
11 substrate so as to form said protective layer as a  
12 surface region in said substrate extending from said  
13 substrate surface to a depth in said substrate at  
14 which a local content percentage of said platinum has  
15 diminished to 5 weight percent;

16 wherein said surface region has an integrated proportional  
17 content of said platinum being from 5 to 40 weight  
18 percent of an overall composition of said surface  
19 [[region.]] region; and

20 wherein said diffusing step comprises applying a platinum  
21 slurry material onto said substrate surface and then  
22 age hardening said metallic substrate with said  
23 platinum slurry material on said substrate surface, so  
24 that said platinum diffuses from said platinum slurry

25 material through said substrate surface into said  
26 surface region of said substrate.

1 57. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 56,  
2 wherein said integrated proportional content of said  
3 platinum is from 5 to 30 weight percent of said overall  
4 composition of said surface region.

1 58. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 56,  
2 wherein said integrated proportional content of said  
3 platinum is from 5 to 17.99 weight percent of said overall  
4 composition of said surface region.

1 59. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 56,  
2 wherein said diffusing step consists of diffusing  
3 exclusively platinum into said substrate surface so as to  
4 form said protective layer as said surface region.

Claim 60 (Canceled).

1 61. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 56,  
2 excluding any aluminizing or alitizing step.

1 62. (New) A metallic article comprising a metallic substrate  
2 including a protective layer adapted to provide protection  
3 against at least one of oxidation or corrosion at a  
4 substrate surface of said substrate, wherein:

5           said substrate has a nickel-based substrate  
6 composition comprising nickel or a nickel alloy and further  
7 comprising a content of aluminum representing greater than  
8 4.5 weight percent of said substrate composition;

9           said protective layer is a surface region in said  
10 substrate, extending into said substrate from said  
11 substrate surface, as formed by diffusion of at least  
12 platinum into said substrate surface; and

13           said surface region has a content of said platinum  
14 such that an integrated proportion of said platinum over an  
15 integration depth range is from 5 to 40 weight percent of  
16 an overall composition of said integration depth range,  
17 which extends from a minimum integration depth to a maximum  
18 integration depth, wherein said minimum integration depth  
19 is at said substrate surface, and wherein said maximum  
20 integration depth is a depth, into said substrate from said  
21 substrate surface, at which a local content percentage of  
22 said platinum has diminished to 5 weight percent.

[RESPONSE CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE]